

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Amend the claims as follows:

Cancel claims 1-26, without prejudice.

Add the following claims:

--27. (new) A pharmaceutical composition consisting essentially of the alpha globin chain of hemoglobin in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the composition is suitable for subcutaneous administration.

28. (new) A pharmaceutical composition consisting essentially of the beta globin chain of hemoglobin in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the composition is suitable for subcutaneous administration.

29. (new) A pharmaceutical composition consisting of the alpha globin chain of hemoglobin and the beta globin chain of hemoglobin in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the composition is suitable for subcutaneous administration.

30. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as in claim 27 wherein said alpha globin chain is present in an amount of 0.1 mg to 6 g.

31. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as in claim 28 wherein said beta globin chain is present in an amount of 0.1 mg to 6 g.

32. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as in claim 29 wherein said beta globin chain and said alpha globin chain are each present in an amount of 0.1 mg to 6 g.--